

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-06

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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: CASC, GW (THOMPSON, WILLIAM HIRAM GERRINGER)
SUBJ: W/W - WILLIAM HIRAM GERRINGER THOMPSON

REF: STATE 169390 AND PREVIOUS

1. MRS. THOMPSON CALLED AT THE CONSULATE GENERAL JULY 7 AND APPEARED VISIBLY DISTRAUGHT THAT HER HUSBAND WAS ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE HER AND HER SON'S WHEREABOUTS. IN AN ENSUING INTERVIEW WITH TWO CONSULAR OFFICERS SHE REPEATEDLY ASKED THAT THEIR WHEREABOUTS NOT BE MADE KNOWN TO MR. THOMPSON AND GAVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT IN SUPPORT OF HER REQUEST:
SHE AND MR. CECIL P. THOMPSON WERE MARRIED IN GREECE IN 1968. THEY SUBSEQUENTLY LIVED TOGETHER IN VARIOUS EUROPEAN CITIES UNTIL 1969, WHEN HE FIRST LEFT HER AT BRUSSELS, BELGIUM FOR OTHER WOMEN. HE RETURNED TEMPORARILY UNTIL HE DEPARTED FOR THE US IN 1972.

2. IN 1975 HE RETURNED TO HER, BUT ON APRIL 10, 1975 MR. THOMPSON REPORTEDLY BEAT HER SO BADLY THAT SHE HAD TO BE ADMITTED INTO A CLINIC AT BRUSSELS. PRESENT DURING THE BEATING WAS THEIR YOUNG CHILD, WILLIAM, WHO ATTEMPTED TO DEFEND THE MOTHER AGAINST THE FATHER. THE YOUNG CHILD'S HEALTH, ACCORDING TO THE MOTHER, WAS NATURALLY BADLY AFFECTED BY INCIDENT. DURING THE CONVERSATION MRS. THOMPSON SUBMITTED FOR INSPECTION DIVORCE DECREE OF
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JANUARY 11, 1977, ISSUED BY GENERAL SESSIONS COURT FOR ROANE COUNTY, TENNESSEE WHEREBY SPOUSES MARRIAGE WAS TERMINATED. LAST PARAGRAPH OF JUDGMENT RULES THAT CUSTODY OF THE MINOR CHILD SHALL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL SUCH TIME AS CHILD IS WITHIN JURISDICTION OF TENNESSEE COURT.

3. MOTHER STATED CHILD IS WELL, IS ATTENDING WELL-REPUTATE

SCHOOL AND MAKING GOOD PROGRESS. SHE PLANS TO ADVISE MR. THOMPSON IMMEDIATELY BY PHONE OF CHILD'S WELL-BEING AND TO DISCUSS WITH HIM MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

4. MRS. THOMPSON FURTHER STATED THAT HUSBAND COULD REACH HER THROUGH HER PARENTS AND THAT HE DID WRITE TO HER THROUGH THEM UNTIL THE FALL OF 1977.

5. MRS. THOMPSON URGENTLY ASKED THAT DEPARTMENT NOT REPEAT NOT ADVISE FORMER HUSBAND OF HER LAST KNOWN ADDRESS CONTAINED IN PASSPORT OFFICE'S FILES. CONGEN REACHED HER THROUGH A FRIEND, AND SHE DID NOT SPECIFY WHERE SHE IS PRESENTLY LIVING. HOWEVER, SHE STATED THAT SHE WILL MOVE IMMEDIATELY FROM PRESENT ADDRESS, SHOULD HUSBAND HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OR WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ADDRESS CONTAINED IN DEPARTMENT'S REFTEL.

6. MRS. THOMPSON GAVE FOLLOWING REASONS FOR STRICT REFUSAL TO DISCLOSE ANY ADDRESS TO US AND/OR HUSBAND:

(A) FORMER HUSBAND ABANDONED HER, BEAT HER UP SERIOUSLY, TAKES DRUGS, RECEIVED DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM U.S. ARMY, GRABBED CHILD BY FORCE AND TORE HIM OUT OF SCHOOL IN BRUSSELS.

7. TWO CONOFFS TALKED TO MRS. THOMPSON WHO ACTED FRANKLY UNCLASSIFIED

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AND COMPOSED, EVEN THOUGH SHE APPEARED QUITE AFRAID OF STEPS MR. THOMPSON MIGHT TAKE TO GAIN PHYSICAL POSSESSION OF CHILD. SHE MENTIONED THAT HE HAS NOT PAID SUPPORT FOR CHILD SINCE 1976, WHEN HE PAID THREE RATES TOTALLING APPROXIMATELY \$240.00. HE DID NOT PAY SUPPORT PRIOR THERETO NOR THEREAFTER. HOWEVER, MRS. THOMPSON READILY WILL REFRAIN FROM OBTAINING SUPPORT PAYMENTS IF A REQUEST FOR SUCH PAYMENTS WOULD OTHERWISE INCREASE HIS DESIRE TO GAIN PHYSICAL POSSESSION OF CHILD. MRS. THOMPSON WAS IN POSSESSION OF COURT AND MEDICAL DOCUMENTS TO SUPPORT HER STATEMENTS.

8. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES CONOFFS FEEL THAT IT WOULD NOT BE PRUDENT IF DEPARTMENT WOULD DIVULGE MRS. THOMPSON'S LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES TO FORMER HUSBAND. DANGER EXISTS THAT HE WOULD COME TO EUROPE AND DO PHYSICAL HARM TO FORMER WIFE AND CHILD. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO NEED FOR SUCH INFORMATION SINCE CHILD AND MOTHER ARE WELL AND ANY NECESSARY LEGAL OR OTHER CONTACTS WITH MRS. THOMPSON CAN BE MADE THROUGH HER PARENTS WHOSE ADDRESS IS KNOWN TO MR. THOMPSON. FURTHERMORE, MRS. THOMPSON HAS PROMISED AND IS WILLING TO TELEPHONE MR. THOMPSON TO TALK TO HIM

PERSONALLY.

9. IN THE EVENT THAT DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY DIVULGED
LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES OF MRS. THOMPSON OR THAT ADDRESSES
WILL BE DIVULGED TO HIM, PLEASE INFORM CONGEN IMMEDIATELY.
WE ARE REQUESTING THIS INFORMATION IN ORDER THAT WE MAY
SO ADVISE MRS. THOMPSON WHO STRONGLY REQUESTED THAT SHE
BE TOLD WHETHER OR NOT FORMER HUSBAND HAS BEEN INFORMED
OF THOSE ADDRESSES. BETTS

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